

Complete Swahili

Joan Russell

For UK order enquiries: please contact Bookpoint Ltd,
130 Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4SB.

Telephone: +44 (0) 1235 827720. Fax: +44 (0) 1235 400454.
Lines are open 09.00–17.00, Monday to Saturday, with a 24-hour
message answering service. Details about our titles and how to
order are available at www.teachyourself.com

For USA order enquiries: please contact McGraw-Hill Customer
Services, PO Box 545, Blacklick, OH 43004-0545, USA.
Telephone: 1-800-722-4726. Fax: 1-614-755-5645.

For Canada order enquiries: please contact McGraw-Hill Ryerson
Ltd, 300 Water St, Whitby, Ontario L1N 9B6, Canada.
Telephone: 905 430 5000. Fax: 905 430 5020.

Long renowned as the authoritative source for self-guided
learning – with more than 50 million copies sold worldwide –
the *Teach Yourself* series includes over 500 titles in the fields of
languages, crafts, hobbies, business, computing and education.

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data: a catalogue record
for this title is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: on file.

First published in UK 1996 as *Teach Yourself Swahili* by Hodder
Education, part of Hachette UK, 338 Euston Road, London NW1 3BH.

First published in US 1996 by The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.
This edition published 2010.

The *Teach Yourself* name is a registered trade mark of
Hodder Headline.

Copyright © 1996, 2010 Joan Russell

In UK: All rights reserved. Apart from any permitted use under UK
copyright law, no part of this publication may be reproduced or
transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical,
including photocopy, recording, or any information, storage and
retrieval system, without permission in writing from the publisher
or under licence from the Copyright Licensing Agency Limited.
Further details of such licences (for reprographic reproduction)
may be obtained from the Copyright Licensing Agency Limited,
of Saffron House, 6–10 Kirby Street, London EC1N 8TS.

In US: All rights reserved. Except as permitted under the
United States Copyright Act of 1976, no part of this publication
may be reproduced or distributed in any form or by any means,
or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior
written permission of the publisher.

Typeset by MPS Limited, a Macmillan Company.

Printed in Great Britain for Hodder Education, an Hachette UK
Company, 338 Euston Road, London NW1 3BH.

The publisher has used its best endeavours to ensure that the URLs
for external websites referred to in this book are correct and active
at the time of going to press. However, the publisher and the
author have no responsibility for the websites and can make no
guarantee that a site will remain live or that the content will remain
relevant, decent or appropriate.

Hachette UK's policy is to use papers that are natural, renewable
and recyclable products and made from wood grown in sustainable
forests. The logging and manufacturing processes are expected to
conform to the environmental regulations of the country of origin.

Impression number

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Year

2014 2013 2012 2011 2010

PL
87D7
R87
2010

Intl. & Area Studies

Contents

<i>Meet the author</i>	vi
<i>Only got five minutes?</i>	viii
<i>Introduction</i>	xv
<i>Pronunciation</i>	xxi
Part one	
1 Hujambo? How are you?	1
Exchanging greetings; saying where you come from; identifying yourself and others.	
2 Kwenda posta Going to the post office	15
Asking and understanding simple directions; asking where something is located; counting; buying stamps at the post office.	
3 Hotelini In the hotel	35
Enquiring about a hotel room; using ordinal numbers; expressing likes and dislikes; identifying some dishes in a restaurant.	
4 Sokoni At the market	58
Asking the price of market produce; simple bargaining to reduce the price; saying goodbye; ordering drinks and food; talking about doing things for other people.	
5 Kwenye duka la sanaa At the craft shop	79
Making introductions and responding to an introduction; colours; saying what people are wearing; expressing sympathy; months and seasons.	
6 Matembezi jioni An evening walk	103
Telling the time; making polite requests and suggesting future action; saying whether something has or has not yet occurred; days of the week and dates.	

Part two

7 Kupika kwa Mama mzee <i>Cooking at Grandmother's</i>	123
Offering to help someone; asking what someone is doing; telling people politely not to do things; preparing a meal.	
8 Kusafiri ni kuzuri! <i>Travelling is good!</i>	140
Travel arrangements; agreeing with a suggested course of action; explaining where towns are located.	
9 Safari ya basi <i>A bus journey</i>	157
Telling someone not to worry; talking about where your luggage is stowed on a road journey; asking for a particular cassette or video tape; wishing someone a safe arrival.	
10 Chumba kizuri! <i>A good room!</i>	177
Furniture and other domestic items; saying where things are in a room; feeling hot and cold.	
11 Mialiko <i>Invitations</i>	194
Talking about being invited to take part in or watch an event; talking about actions being done by people; dates of birth.	
12 Hairuhusiwi kuegesha! <i>No parking!</i>	211
Saying you are in difficulty; talking about starting and stopping a vehicle; saying a vehicle has broken down; expressing what would happen if you took a certain course of action.	
13 Kujifunza lugha <i>Learning a language</i>	227
Talking about learning a language; asking people to speak more slowly or to repeat; saying what would have happened if you had taken a certain course of action.	
14 Siku ya taabu <i>A day of troubles</i>	243
Talking about injuring, or feeling pain in, different parts of the body; giving an account of a sequence of related events; saying something had already occurred, was happening or used to happen.	
15 Katika mbuga ya wanyama <i>In the game park</i>	262
Game animals; more colours; making comparisons; asking for someone's name and address and supplying this information about yourself; sizes of things.	

16 Mlimani: kuna nini?	280
<i>On the mountain: what's the matter?</i>	
Asking what is the matter, what's wrong; more expressions describing symptoms and pain; people's ages; causing something to happen; warning against doing something.	
17 Mchezaji soka na wachezaji ngoma	299
<i>A soccer player and some dancers</i>	
Kinship terms; referring to natural events; talking about different types of things and actions.	
18 Barua zimewasilili <i>Some letters have arrived!</i>	313
Congratulating someone; wishing someone a Happy Christmas, New Year, Idi; writing letters.	
<i>Key to the exercises</i>	328
<i>Appendix</i>	339
<i>Swahili-English vocabulary</i>	345
<i>English-Swahili vocabulary</i>	360
<i>Useful phrases for visitors</i>	375
<i>Glossary of grammatical terms</i>	387
<i>Taking it further</i>	397
<i>Test your Swahili</i>	399
<i>Grammar index</i>	403

Credits

Front cover: © Ismael Montero/istockphoto.com

Back cover and pack: © Jakub Semeniuk/iStockphoto.com,
© Royalty-Free/Corbis, © agencyby/iStockphoto.com, © Andy Cook/iStockphoto.com, © Christopher Ewing/iStockphoto.com,
© zebicho - Fotolia.com, © Geoffrey Holman/iStockphoto.com,
© Photodisc/Getty Images, © James C. Pruitt/iStockphoto.com,
© Mohamed Saber - Fotolia.com

Pack: © Stockbyte/Getty Images

Key to Test your Swahili

- 1 a** John hakupenda kununua kile kinyago kikubwa kwa sababu ni kizito.
b Alipokuwa akitafuta posta ni dereva ambaye John alimwuliza njia.
c Regina hakununua ndizi sokoni kwa sababu ipo migomba shambani mwake.
d Mamake Mohamed, jina lake Mama Fatuma.
e i Alison alikuwa amekwenda maktaba.
ii Alikusudia kusoma magazeti ya Kiingereza.
f Marafiki zetu watatu walikaa karibu na dirisha.
- 2 a** Bw. Elvan alitaka kuangalia ramani ili kumwonyesha Steve wako wapi hasa.
b Asha alikuwa akifanya kazi ya uhazili. OR Kazi ambayo Asha alikuwa akifanya huko Dodoma ni uhazili.
c Akina mama (ila mama mzee) walikwenda mwituni wakate kuni. OR ... ili kukata kuni.
d Bw. Twaibu alifikiri kwamba Steve atapanda basi liondokalo saa nne.
e Ngalawa ni ndogo zaidi kuliko jahazi. Ndiyo inaundwa kwa kuchonga gogo, lakini jahazi huundwa kwa mbao.
f Alipokuwa anamwonyesha Steve kila kitu ndani ya chumba alikunjua chandalua. OR Kitu ambacho Juma alikikunjua ndani ya chumba hicho ni chandalua.
- 3 a** Ni wazazi wa Adam ambao watafurahi kukutana na Steve.
b 'Mmarekani mmoja atawasili Heathrow tarehe 16. Ni yule ambaye alinizuru zamani chuoni nikampeleka kuwatembelea wazee sehemu za kusini. Ni kijana mwema. Nimempa namba ya simu yenu.'
c Walikwenda kwa haraka. OR Walikwenda mbio.
d Mahali palipotokea ajali hiyo njiani ni mahali pa hatari, kwa sababu lami ilikuwa imeharibika pande zote mbili za barabara.
e Hakucheza mpira kwa kuwa mechi iliahirishwa sababu ya mvua, yaani uwanja umejaa maji.
f Simba hao walikuwa wamelala katika kivuli karibu na mti mrefu sana, upande wa kulia.

Grammar index

Numbers refer to units

-a (of) 3, 4, 7
 adjectives and adjectival structures 3, 4, 7
 adverbial nouns 3, 7
 adverbs and adverbial structures 7, 9, 11, 13
 although/even though 18
 augmentatives II/MA 15

bado 6

be 1, 3

be in a place 2, 7, 8

cardinal numbers 2

causative verb-form 16

comparisons 15

compounds with **mwana** 17

conditional 8, 12, 13, 18

contracted forms (**babake**, etc.) 9

conversive verb-form 10

countries 1

dates 6

days 6

demonstratives (**hii, ile, hiyo**, etc.)

5, 6, 8, 9, 11

diminutives 15

direct speech 14

-enye 9

-enyewe 10

future tense **-ta-** 2, 7

greetings 1, 14

habitual action **hu** 8

have/be with 2

huko + place-name 8

imperative 2, 4, 7

indefinite/simple present

tense **-a-** 10

infinitive **ku-** 5, 13

-ingi 3

-ingine 3, 17

-ingine-o 17

-je? 13

kabla (ya) 8

kama, kuwa, kwamba 10

'**-kata** + noun' verbs 9

ki- adj. and adv. prefix 3, 5, 17

-ki- if/when 8

kwa 3, 13

letter-writing 18

money 2

months 5

monosyllabic verbs 3

multiple subjects 18

na + o- forms 5, 15

na + pers. pronouns (**nami**, etc.)
5, 10

narrative 'tense' **-ka-** 12, 14

ndi + o- forms 9

negatives 2, see also conditional,
imperative, infinitive, subjunctive
'not yet' tense **-ja-** 6

noun-classes:

KI/VI 3

KU (infinitives) 8

KU, PA, MU 7

(JI)/MA 4

M/MI 5

M/WA 1

N 2

U 1, 6

nouns derived from verbs 11, 12, 14

numbers 2

object 4

object-markers 4, 5, 6, 16

ordinal numbers 3

-o -ote 10

-ote 10, 11

passive verb-form 11, 16

past tense **-li-** 3, 7

perfect tense 5, 6

pers. pronouns 3, 11

'**-piga** + noun' verbs 15

place 2, 3, 7, 8

possessives 3

prefix 1

prepositional (applicative)

verb-form 4

prepositions 10

present tense 1, 10

process verbs 17

pronoun 1, 7

questions:

how? 13, 16

how many? 2

what? 1, 6, 16

when? 11

where? 1, 2

which? 2

who? 4

why? 3, 5

reciprocal (associative)

verb-form, 11

reflexive 5, 16

relative pronouns 7, 8, 9, 11,
15, 17

repetition of verb-stem 7

reported speech 10, 14

seasons 5

state 5

stative verb-form 12

stem 4

subject 1

subjunctive 6, 7, 12, 16

telling the time 6

time and place **ku-, pa-, m(u)-**
16

-to- negative 13

two-verb tenses 14

verb 1

verb prefix + **o** (**yo, zo**, etc.)
5, 8

verb-prefix used for 'be' 14

verbs of foreign origin 4, 11

word-families (**s-f-r** words, etc.)
13

word order 4, 5, 9